

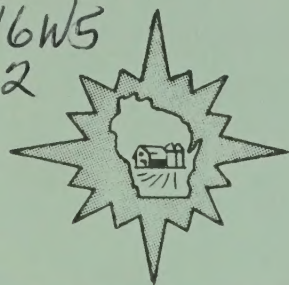
## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.





a.HD1775  
.W6W5  
C.2



# WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

Vol. XII, No. 3

SERIALS CONTROL AND  
EXCHANGE SECT  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

January 1980

## Cream of the News

Milk production in Wisconsin during December was up 3 percent from a year earlier, and total output of milk for 1979 was also 3 percent larger than in 1978.

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese declined from November to December, while butter prices increased.

Weekly estimates for December indicated that production of American cheese and butter in both Wisconsin and the Nation was up from a year ago.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in December were expected to average \$12.45 a hundred-weight, 2 cents more than the previous month.

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of 1979 were 15 percent below a year earlier, but stocks of cheese were up 16 percent.

Farm numbers in Wisconsin were estimated at 94,000 on January 1, a decline of 1,000 farms from a year ago.

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-December increased 4 points from a month earlier.

Record production of hay, soybeans, and corn for grain in 1979 resulted in the crop production index being 8 points above 1978.

Based on a planting intentions survey taken about January 1, corn acreage in Wisconsin and the Nation may increase 4 percent in 1980.

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin for November were down \$6.00 from August and the lowest since October 1976.

The number of cattle and calves on feed in the 23 major feeding states on January 1 was 7 percent below a year ago.

Stocks of red meat in cold storage at the end of December were 2 percent under a year earlier, but poultry stocks were up 38 percent.

## MILK PRODUCTION RECORD HIGH IN 1979

According to preliminary estimates, milk production on Wisconsin farms during 1979 totaled a record of nearly 22 billion pounds. This was an increase of 3 percent from the 1978 output. There were more milk cows on Wisconsin farms during 1979, and monthly production per cow exceeded a year earlier in every month except April when it was the same. The annual output of milk per cow for 1979 was estimated at 12,110 pounds, up 375 pounds from the previous year. Pasture conditions were good throughout the 1979 growing season, and feed supplies have been plentiful for the winter feeding season. The State's milk production for December amounted to 1,722 million pounds, 3 percent more than in December 1978. Production per cow for December averaged 950 pounds, a gain of 25 pounds from a year earlier.

The Nation's milk production of 10 billion pounds in December was up 2 percent from the previous year. There were 1 percent fewer milk cows on the Nation's farms during December than a year earlier, but production per cow increased 28 pounds. Grain and other concentrates fed to milk cows on January 1, 1980 averaged 15.4 pounds, up .4 pound from that date in 1979. The preliminary estimate of milk production in the Nation for 1979 was 123.5 billion pounds, 1 percent higher than the 1978 output.

Milk Production

Selected States	December 1978	December 1979	Jan.-Dec. 1979	Change from last year	
				Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . .	1,675	1,722	21,950	+3	+3
Minnesota . . .	723	718	9,048	-1	n. c.
New York . . .	863	888	10,796	+3	+3
Pennsylvania . .	640	664	7,990	+4	+1
California . . .	963	1,041	12,346	+8	+4
Other States . .	4,923	4,977	61,415	+1	n. c.
United States .	9,788	10,010	123,545	+2	+1

222-1-80

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURE REPORTING SERVICE

A Cooperative Function of

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture,  
Trade and Consumer Protection  
Division of Administration

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Economics, Statistics,  
& Cooperatives Service



## MILK PRICE UP SLIGHTLY IN DECEMBER

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in December were expected to average \$12.45 a hundredweight, 2 cents more than the previous month. The December 1978 milk price averaged \$11.65 a hundredweight.

November milk prices were up 16 cents from October and 97 cents above a year earlier. Milkfat content for November averaged 3.90 percent compared with 3.89 percent in November 1978.

Milk produced for the Grade A market returned \$12.62 a hundredweight in November, up 19 cents from the previous month and \$1.04 above a year earlier.

Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$12.00 a hundredweight for November, a gain of 7 cents from October and 81 cents higher than November 1978. The 3.5 percent base price for manufacturing grade milk in November averaged \$11.46 a hundredweight, 24 cents more than the 3.5 percent government support price.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	October 1979		November price per cwt.			Dec. 1979 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	per cwt.	1978	1979	79/78 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . . .	3.84	12.27	11.46	12.43	+ 8	12.45
Minnesota . . . .	3.71	11.88	11.02	11.99	+ 9	12.00
New York . . . .	3.66	12.90	11.90	12.90	+ 8	12.80
California . . . .	3.59	12.00	10.80	12.20	+13	12.70
United States . .	3.71	12.60	11.60	12.90	+11	13.00
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.83	12.43	11.58	12.62	+ 9	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.86	11.93	11.19	12.00	+ 7	XXX
Creameries . . .	3.85	11.82	11.05	11.89	+ 8	XXX
Cheese factories	3.86	11.95	11.21	12.02	+ 7	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.84	11.81	11.02	11.88	+ 8	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

### — PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

#### Statisticians

Carrol D. Spencer, *In Charge*

Jim Davies, *Assistant in Charge*

Ed Lippert

Laverne E. Krahn

John S. Rowe

Charles W. LeGrande

#### Editor

Marvin Heiser

*This publication is free upon request to the Wisconsin Agriculture Reporting Service, Box 9160, Madison Wisconsin 53715.*

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1979 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Market milk . . . . .	11.05	11.94	12.04	+ 9
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	10.69	11.45	11.46	+ 7
Creameries . . . . .	10.52	11.36	11.35	+ 8
American cheese plants . . . . .	10.70	11.45	11.46	+ 7
Varied products plants . . . . .	10.52	11.36	11.35	+ 8
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . . . . .	10.87	11.77	11.87	+ 9

1/Computed using milkfat differential. 2/Preliminary.

## NOVEMBER BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION UP FROM YEAR AGO

Production of butter and cheese in Wisconsin and the Nation during November was above that month in 1978. The State's butter output of 19.8 million pounds for November was up 17 percent from a year earlier. Nationally, production of butter in November was 12 percent larger than the previous year. Although Minnesota produced 6 percent less butter in November than a year ago, output in California was up 52 percent and other states combined had an increase of 5 percent.

Production of all cheese in the Nation for November was 4 percent more than a year earlier. Both Swiss and American cheese production increased 6 percent from November 1978. Output of Italian cheese was up 2 percent, but Brick and Muenster declined 2 percent as did all other varieties.

American cheese production in Iowa during November was

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	November 1978	November 1979	Jan.-Nov. 1979	Change from last year	
				Nov.	Jan.-Nov.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin . . . . .	16,953	19,800	234,100	+ 17	+ 1
Minnesota . . . . .	10,673	10,005	144,585	- 6	- 8
California . . . . .	8,444	12,800	136,015	+ 52	+ 6
Other states . . . . .	30,400	32,048	386,942	+ 5	- 3
United States . . . . .	66,470	74,653	901,642	+ 12	- 2
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin . . . . .	63,745	67,500	859,150	+ 6	+ 6
Minnesota . . . . .	31,972	33,895	380,545	+ 6	+ 10
Iowa . . . . .	7,321	7,195	89,337	- 2	+ 7
Other states . . . . .	48,393	51,350	685,744	+ 6	+ 3
United States . . . . .	151,431	159,940	2,014,776	+ 6	+ 6
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss . . . . .	15,024	15,924	201,052	+ 6	+ 4
Brick and Muenster	6,050	5,954	69,389	- 2	n. c.
Italian . . . . .	73,754	75,545	848,983	+ 2	+ 7
All other . . . . .	33,398	32,575	270,850	- 2	+ 6
Total . . . . .	128,226	129,998	1,390,274	+ 1	+ 6
ALL CHEESE					
United States . . . . .	279,275	289,938	3,405,050	+ 4	+ 6
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/ . . . . .	53,454	50,600	617,500	- 5	- 4
Creamed 2/ . . . .	67,802	64,595	786,099	- 5	- 3
Low Fat 3/ . . . .	11,426	11,822	144,421	+ 3	+ 3
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
ICE CREAM					
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,299	1,400	17,650	+ 8	n. c.
Illinois . . . . .	2,776	2,500	35,630	- 10	- 4
Iowa . . . . .	834	920	12,248	+ 10	+ 14
Michigan . . . . .	2,330	2,400	34,430	+ 3	+ 5
Minnesota . . . . .	2,517	2,380	30,195	- 5	+ 2
Other states . . . . .	47,578	46,651	636,010	- 2	n. c.
United States . . . . .	57,334	56,251	766,163	- 2	n. c.

1/Mostly used for processing into creamed or lowfat cottage cheese. 2/Fat content 4 percent or more. 3/Fat content less than 4 percent.



2 percent below the previous year. Wisconsin, Minnesota, and all other states made 6 percent more American cheese in November than a year earlier.

Output of both creamed and curd cottage cheese in November was down 5 percent from the previous year, but production of lowfat cottage cheese increased 3 percent. Wisconsin's ice cream production for November was 8 percent more than a year ago while the Nation's ice cream output declined 2 percent.

### BUTTER STOCKS LOWER BUT CHEESE STOCKS UP

Butter stocks in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of 1979 totaled 175.5 million pounds, a decline of 15 percent from a year earlier. Wisconsin's butter stocks in cold storage on December 31 amounted to 19.5 million pounds, 10 percent below the previous year. The Government had nearly 151 million pounds of butter in cold storage at the end of 1979, a decline of 21 percent from a year ago.

Stocks of American cheese in the Nation on December 31 totaled 413.7 million pounds, an increase of 16 percent from a year earlier. Wisconsin had 225.5 million pounds of American cheese in cold storage at the end of 1979, a gain of 24 percent from the previous year. Government stocks of American cheese amounted to 2.4 million pounds compared with 8.9 million pounds on December 31, 1978.

Swiss cheese stocks in cold storage on December 31 were up 8 percent from a year ago, while stocks of other cheese showed an increase of 22 percent.

**Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese**

Commodity	Dec. 31, 1977	Dec. 31, 1978	Dec. 31 1979	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter . . . . .	184,907	206,930	175,548	-15
Cheese, American . . . .	404,669	357,938	413,687	+16
Cheese, Swiss . . . . .	8,209	12,290	13,308	+ 8
Cheese, all other . . . . .	55,751	66,144	80,860	+22
Cheese, total . . . . .	468,629	436,372	507,855	+16
	WISCONSIN			
Butter . . . . .	14,064	21,602	19,523	-10
Cheese, American . . . .	191,479	181,939	225,475	+24
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter . . . . .	150,687	191,776	150,818	-21
Cheese, American . . . .	43,140	8,855	2,417	-73

\*Included in above totals.

**Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products, United States**

Commodity	Nov. 30 1977	Nov. 30 1978	Nov. 30 1979	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk . . . . .	5,917	3,721	4,910	+ 32
Dried skim milk . . . . .	60,039	37,373	86,207	+131
Dried buttermilk . . . . .	3,661	2,224	4,121	+ 85
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	100,990	84,383	89,141	+ 6

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

### AMERICAN CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION ABOVE DECEMBER 1978

Weekly estimates for December indicated that production

of American cheese and butter in both Wisconsin and the Nation was higher than a year earlier. National butter production for December was about 3 percent more than in December 1978, but output for January through November was 2 percent below that period in 1978. Wisconsin's butter production for December was above the previous year due to increases in the first three weeks of the month. For January through November, the State's butter churnings were 1 percent more than in those months of 1978.

American cheese production in the Nation for December was 1 percent higher than a year earlier, while output for January through November showed an increase of 6 percent. Wisconsin's American cheese production during January through November also had a gain of 6 percent from that period in 1978. The State's output of American cheese in December was about 7 percent more than a year ago.

**Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output**

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1979	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1979	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
November . . . . .	74,653	+ 12	+ 17	159,940	+ 6	+ 6
Jan.-Nov. . . . .	901,642	- 2	+ 1	2,014,776	+ 6	+ 6
Weeks ending						
Dec. 6 . . . . .	17,800	+ 7	+ 13	37,000	+ 5	+ 11
Dec. 13 . . . . .	16,800	+ 2	+ 24	35,500	+ 1	+ 5
Dec. 20 . . . . .	17,000	+ 4	+ 12	37,300	- 2	+ 9
Dec. 27 . . . . .	19,000	+ 1	n. c.	42,400	- 3	+ 3
Jan. 3 . . . . .	22,800	+ 2	- 3	44,000	+ 3	+ 6
Total . . . . .	93,400	+ 3	xxx	196,200	+ 1	xxx

### WHOLESALE BUTTER PRICE HIGHER

Wholesale prices of 92-score butter at the New York market averaged 136.62 cents a pound in December, up more than 1 cent from November and nearly 11 cents above last year.

Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged \$1.25 a pound at Wisconsin assembling points during December. This was a decline of three-fourths cent from the previous month but almost 6 cents more than December 1978.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 159.50 cents a pound for December. Wholesale prices for Swiss cheese were unchanged from November but were 8½ cents higher than a year earlier.

**Wholesale Dairy Prices**

Commodity	December 1978	November 1979	December 1979 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	125.83¢	135.27¢	136.62¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. block, pound 1/ . .	119.38¢	125.76¢	125.00¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block, pound 1/ . . . . .	150.98¢	159.50¢	159.50¢
National evaporated milk, case, 48 13 fluid oz. cans . . . . .	\$17.01	\$18.72	\$18.72
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound . . . . .	75.71¢	83.84¢	83.87¢

1/ Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.



## PRICES RECEIVED INDEX HIGHER IN MID-DECEMBER

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers in mid-December was up 4 points from a month earlier. Higher prices for milk, calves, hogs, and lambs were the main contributors to the increase in the prices received index. At 265 percent of the 1967 base year, the index was 19 points (8 percent) above December 15, 1978.

Milk cows averaged \$1,070.00 each as of mid-December, down \$25.00 from the previous month but \$225.00 more than a year ago. Calves returned \$109.90 a hundredweight in December, an increase of \$8.90 from November and only \$1.00 under the record high of May 1979. Calf prices were \$41.40 higher than in December 1978.

Steers and heifers averaged \$64.30 a hundredweight for mid-December, a gain of 20 cents from a month earlier and \$14.30 above the previous year. Slaughter cows at \$47.30 a hundredweight in December were 10 cents below November but \$5.30 above a year ago.

Hog prices increased \$4.20 from November to December, but at an average of \$37.40 a hundredweight were \$9.70 lower than on December 15, 1978.

Sheep averaged \$17.60 a hundredweight in December, down \$1.40 from November but \$1.10 more than the previous year. Lambs brought an average of \$64.10 a hundredweight in mid-December, up \$1.40 from a month earlier and \$5.40 above a year ago.

Prices for turkeys averaged 48 cents a pound liveweight in December, 4 cents higher than November but 3 cents under a year earlier. Egg prices, at 62 cents a dozen on December 15, were the highest since January 1974. Eggs were up 2 cents from November and 6 cents above mid-December 1978.

Wheat prices averaged \$3.54 a bushel in December, a decline of 4 cents from November but 52 cents higher than the previous year. Corn returned an average of \$2.36 a bushel as of December 15, up 3 cents from a month earlier and 38 cents above December 1978.

Oats averaged \$1.39 a bushel in December, 7 cents higher than the previous month and 30 cents more than a year ago. Soybeans brought an average of \$5.85 a bushel for mid-December, down 4 cents from November and 41 cents below December 1978.

Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$30.00 a ton as of December 15, a decline of \$2.50 from a month earlier and \$6.00 under the previous year.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Dec. 15 1977	Dec. 15 1978	Nov. 15 1979	Dec. 15 1979
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	605.00	845.00	1,095.00	1,070.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	37.30	50.00	64.10	64.30
Cows	Cwt.	23.80	42.00	47.40	47.30
Calves	Cwt.	40.00	68.50	101.00	109.90
Hogs	Cwt.	40.20	47.10	33.20	37.40
Sheep	Cwt.	12.50	16.50	19.00	17.60
Lambs	Cwt.	53.50	58.70	62.70	64.10
Turkeys	Lb.	.400	.510	.440	.480
Eggs	Doz.	.480	.559	.600	.620
Corn	Bu.	1.85 1/	1.98 1/	2.33 1/	2.36
Wheat	Bu.	2.27	3.02	3.58	3.54
Oats	Bu.	1.07 1/	1.09 1/	1.32 1/	1.39
Soybeans	Bu.	5.60	6.26	5.89	5.85
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	50.00	36.00	32.50	30.00

1/Average for the month.

## FARM NUMBERS LOWER

The number of farms in Wisconsin as of January 1, 1980 was estimated at 94,000, based on the definition of a farm which includes places with annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more. Farm numbers in the State at the beginning of this year were down 1,000 farms from a year ago. This decline continues the trend of the past three years.

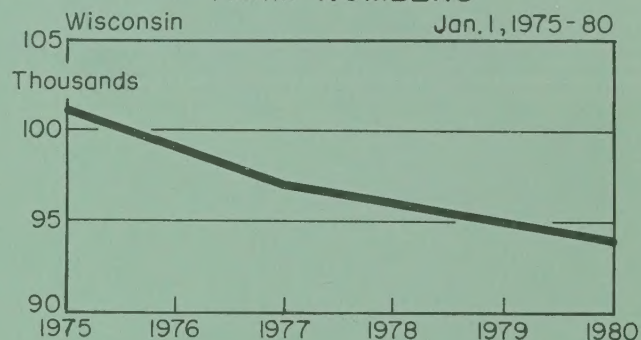
Farm numbers in Wisconsin declined at a slower rate during the 1970's than in the 1960's when the annual reduction was usually 3,000 farms. The current number of farms is less than half of the peak of 200,000 farms reached in 1935. Farm numbers are now the lowest since the 1860's.

Land in farms was estimated at 18.6 million acres as of January 1, 1980. This was a decline of 100,000 acres from a year earlier. Over 5 million acres have been removed from farmland since 1942 when a high of almost 24 million acres were in farmland in Wisconsin.

As farm numbers declined, the average size of a Wisconsin farm increased from a low of 113 acres in 1925 to a high of 198 acres by 1980.

There were 2,332,690 farms in the United States in 1979 which had annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more. This was about 2 percent fewer than in 1978. The 1980 preliminary estimate of farm numbers is 2,309,130, a

## FARM NUMBERS



Number of Farms and Land in Farms  
Wisconsin and United States, 1945-80 1/

Year	Wisconsin			United States		
	No. of farms	Average size	Land in farms	No. of farms	Average size	Land in farms
	Thous.	Acres	Mil. acres	Thous.	Acres	Mil. acres
1950	174	136	23.6	5,648	213	1,202.0
1955	155	150	23.2	4,654	258	1,201.9
1960	138	161	22.2	3,963	297	1,175.6
1961	136	163	22.1	3,825	305	1,167.7
1962	133	165	22.0	3,692	314	1,159.4
1963	130	168	21.8	3,572	322	1,151.6
1964	127	170	21.6	3,457	332	1,146.1
1965	124	173	21.4	3,356	340	1,139.6
1966	121	175	21.2	3,257	348	1,131.8
1967	118	177	20.9	3,162	355	1,123.5
1968	115	179	20.6	3,071	363	1,115.2
1969	112	181	20.3	3,000	369	1,107.8
1970	110	183	20.1	2,949	374	1,102.4
1971	108	184	19.9	2,902	378	1,096.9
1972	107	185	19.8	2,860	382	1,092.1
1973	106	186	19.7	2,823	385	1,087.9
1974	105	187	19.6	2,795	388	1,084.4
1975 2/	101	191	19.3	2,491	427	1,062.7
1976	99	193	19.1	2,454	432	1,059.1
1977	97	195	18.9	2,409	438	1,054.8
1978	96	196	18.8	2,370	444	1,052.0
1979	95	197	18.7	2,333	450	1,049.1
1980 3/	94	198	18.6	2,309	453	1,046.7

1/Including Alaska and Hawaii. 2/Estimates from 1975 on, include places with annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more. 3/Preliminary.



decline of 1 percent. Total land in farms for 1979 was 1,049 million acres, down 3 million acres from 1978. The preliminary estimate for 1980 is 1,047 million acres of land in farms.

### 1979 CROP SUMMARY

The crop production index for 1979 averaged 125 percent of the 1967 base year. This was about 1 point below the record high in 1977 but 8 points above 1978. Production of hay, soybeans, and corn for grain in 1979 was the highest ever but oats production was down. Tobacco output showed a substantial gain while potato production declined slightly from 1978. Production of most vegetables was up in 1979, led by record crops of peas, snap beans, beets, and cucumbers. The cherry crop was excellent, production of cranberries increased, but apple production declined.

Wisconsin farmers planted a record corn acreage of 3,950,000 acres in 1979, an increase of 200,000 acres from 1978. Nearly 3 million acres were harvested for grain, 8 percent more than in 1978. Yields of corn for grain averaged 103 bushels per acre, only 1 bushel under the record high established in 1977. Production of corn for grain in 1979 totaled 307 million bushels, up 14 percent from the previous year. This was the first time the State's crop exceeded 300 million bushels. Corn for silage was cut from 900,000 acres, a decline of 20,000 acres from 1978. Yields of silage averaged 12 tons per acre, the same as in 1978.

Oats were harvested from only 980,000 acres in 1979, the first time since 1880 that there were less than 1 million acres of oats harvested. Yields averaged 57 bushels per acre in 1979, up 1 bushel from 1978. Production of oats totaled nearly 56 million bushels, 11 percent below the 1978 crop.

Production of all hay in 1979 was a record of nearly 12.6 million tons, 8 percent more than in 1978. Both acreage and yield of hay were up in 1979. Soybean acreage increased sharply in 1979 as the 295,000 acres harvested were 80,000 acres more than in 1978. Yield of soybeans averaged 34 bushels per acre, 2 bushels above 1978. A record 10 million bushels of soybeans were produced in 1979, up 46 percent from the previous year.

Tobacco production was estimated at 25.1 million pounds for 1979, an increase of 24 percent from 1978 and the largest crop since 1950. The 17 million hundredweight of potatoes produced in 1979 was 2 percent less than in 1978. Wheat production for 1979 was 39 percent more than the previous year. Rye production increased in 1979 but output of barley was down.

Apple production in 1979 was 18 percent under 1978. The cherry crop of 14.6 million pounds was 27 percent above 1978 and the largest crop since 1971. Strawberry production for 1979 was equal to 1978 but cranberry production was up 9 percent. The maple syrup crop in 1979 was down 16 percent from the previous year, while production of mint for oil increased 19 percent.

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for 1979

Crop	Acreage for harvest			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979		1977	1978	1979
	Thousands							Thousands		
FIELD CROPS										
Corn for grain . . . . .	2,800	2,750	2,980	104.0	98.0	103.0	Bu.	291,200	269,500	306,940
Corn silage . . . . .	980	920	900	12.0	12.0	12.0	Ton	11,760	11,040	10,800
Oats . . . . .	1,170	1,120	980	65.0	56.0	57.0	Bu.	76,050	62,720	55,860
Barley . . . . .	29	27	24	54.0	49.0	49.0	Bu.	1,566	1,323	1,176
Rye . . . . .	14	17	16	26.0	21.0	23.0	Bu.	364	357	368
Wheat (all) . . . . .	75	45	54	41.0	34.7	40.0	Bu.	3,075	1,560	2,162
Winter . . . . .	60	33	38	43.0	36.0	43.0	Bu.	2,580	1,188	1,634
Spring . . . . .	15	12	16	33.0	31.0	33.0	Bu.	495	372	528
Soybeans for beans . . . . .	192	215	295	35.0	32.0	34.0	Bu.	6,720	6,880	10,030
Potatoes (fall) . . . . .	55.5	55.0	54.0	325	315	315	Cwt.	18,038	17,325	17,010
Tobacco (all) . . . . .	12.0	12.1	12.9	2,032	1,678	1,949	Lb.	24,385	20,305	25,140
Type 54 . . . . .	6.2	6.2	6.3	2,020	1,800	2,000	Lb.	12,524	11,160	12,600
Type 55 . . . . .	5.8	5.9	6.6	2,045	1,550	1,900	Lb.	11,861	9,145	12,540
Peppermint . . . . .	7.2	8.2	9.0	33	34	35	Lb.	238	279	315
Spearmint . . . . .	2.9	3.8	4.4	37	37	42	Lb.	107	141	185
HAY AND FORAGE										
Hay (all) . . . . .	4,040	4,000	4,030	2.97	2.91	3.12	Ton	12,002	11,635	12,555
Alfalfa and mixture . . . . .	3,100	3,100	3,100	3.25	3.10	3.30	Ton	10,075	9,610	10,230
All other . . . . .	940	900	930	2.05	2.25	2.50	Ton	1,927	2,025	2,325
VEGETABLE CROPS										
Carrots . . . . .	3.5	3.7	4.5	467	413	417	Cwt.	1,636	1,529	1,878
Cabbage . . . . .	5.0	4.8	4.8	425	375	436	Cwt.	2,125	1,800	2,091
Lettuce . . . . .	1.4	1.2	1.1	230	215	215	Cwt.	322	258	237
Onions, commercial . . . . .	1.2	1.5	1.5	290	295	290	Cwt.	348	443	435
For processing:										
Green lima beans . . . . .	5.9	6.4	6.9	1.17	.94	1.06	Ton 1/	6.9	6.0	7.3
Peas . . . . .	107.5	97.0	109.6	1.36	1.12	1.62	Ton 1/	146.2	108.7	177.6
Snap beans . . . . .	67.2	68.0	79.3	2.76	2.77	2.68	Ton	185.5	188.4	212.5
Sweet corn . . . . .	130.7	110.8	121.4	4.56	4.55	4.58	Ton	596.0	504.2	556.0
Cucumber for pickles . . . . .	9.4	11.1	10.3	6.23	5.50	6.21	Ton	58.6	61.1	64.0
Beets for canning . . . . .	6.9	7.6	8.1	13.77	12.37	12.86	Ton	95.0	94.0	104.2
FRUITS, ETC.										
Apples, commercial . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	56,000	66,000	54,000
Tart cherries . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	12,200	11,500	14,600
Cranberries . . . . .	6.4	7.0	7.1	133.4	117.4	126.8	Bbl.	854	822	900
Strawberries . . . . .	1.3	1.4	1.5	24	27	25	Cwt.	31	38	38

1/Shelled.



## CORN ACREAGE MAY BE INCREASED IN 1980

Based on a planting intentions survey as of January 1, farmers in Wisconsin and the Nation indicated that corn acreage may be increased in 1980. Wisconsin farmers expected to plant 4.1 million acres of corn this year, up 4 percent from 1979. The National corn acreage was indicated at 81.6 million acres, also 4 percent higher than last year.

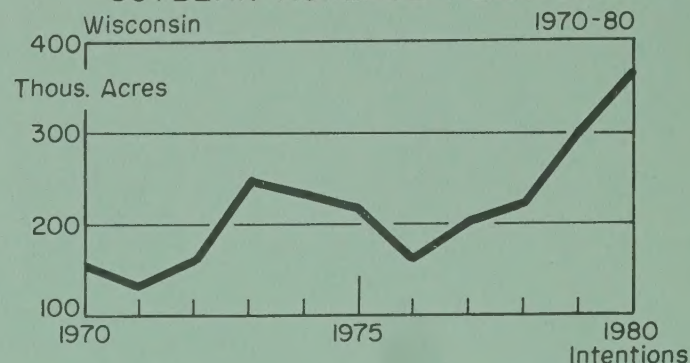
Plantings of soybeans in Wisconsin for 1980 were intended at 360,000 acres, 20 percent above 1979. The Nation's soybean acreage was expected to show little change from the 70.6 million acres planted in 1979.

The January 1 survey indicated that acreage of oats in both Wisconsin and the Nation would continue downward. The State's oat acreage was estimated at 1,060,000 acres for this year, down 4 percent from last year and the lowest in one hundred years. Nationally, the acreage of oats was intended at 13.3 million acres in 1980, a decline of 5 percent from 1979.

Wisconsin's barley acreage for this year was expected to total 27,000 acres, an increase of 8 percent from last year. Barley acreage in the Nation may be up 11 percent in 1980.

Seedings of spring wheat in Wisconsin during 1980 could amount to 19,000 acres, 12 percent more than the previous year. Spring wheat acreage in the Nation was indicated at

## SOYBEAN ACREAGE PLANTED



15.7 million acres this year, up 1 percent from 1979.

Wisconsin farmers seeded 50,000 acres of winter wheat in the fall of 1979, an increase of 25 percent from a year earlier. The 56.8 million acres of winter wheat planted in the Nation last fall was 9 percent more than the previous year.

The January 1 acreage intentions survey was taken prior to the announcement on January 4 of the grain embargo against the Soviet Union. Actual acres planted may vary from those indicated on the intentions survey due to such reasons as the grain embargo, weather conditions, prices of grain, costs of farm production inputs, and government agricultural programs.

Planted acreage, Selected Crops, 1980 Intentions Compared with 1978 and 1979 Planted Acreage  
Wisconsin and United States

Crop	Wisconsin				United States			
	1978	1979	1980	Change from last year	1978	1979	1980	Change from last year
	1,000 acres			Percent	1,000 acres			Percent
Field corn . . . . .	3,750	3,950	4,100	+ 4	78,640	78,600	81,639	+ 4
Oats 1/ . . . . .	1,250	1,100	1,060	- 4	16,087	13,985	13,313	- 5
Soybeans 2/ . . . . .	220	300	360	+20	63,503	70,629	70,689	n.c.
Barley 1/ . . . . .	28	25	27	+ 8	9,556	7,622	8,431	+11
Spring wheat . . . . .	13	17	19	+12	14,176	15,517	15,734	+ 1
Winter wheat 3/ . . . . .	35	40	50	+25	47,893	51,919	56,841	+ 9

1/U. S. total includes acreage planted preceding fall. 2/Grown alone for all purposes. 3/Seeded in fall of preceding year.

## FEEDER PIG PRICES LOWER

Wisconsin farmers reported paying an average of \$54.00 per one hundred pounds of feeder pigs in November 1979. This was \$6.00 below the August 1979 price and the lowest since October 1976. Feeder pig prices declined by more than half in the past year.

Wisconsin Feeder Pig Prices 1/

Year	February	May	August	November
Dollars per cwt.				
1970 . . . . .	52.50	62.80	47.00	31.50
1971 . . . . .	22.90	30.00	31.90	34.90
1972 . . . . .	45.10	54.00	58.30	58.80
1973 . . . . .	60.50	77.20	86.20	80.20
1974 . . . . .	76.80	71.00	43.00	44.50
1975 . . . . .	57.50	91.00	99.50	120.00
1976 . . . . .	100.00	110.00	82.50	52.00
1977 . . . . .	57.50	86.00	86.50	86.50
1978 . . . . .	86.00	114.00	106.00	113.00
1979 . . . . .	106.00	99.00	60.00	54.00

1/Prior to 1979, the data was published for the months of January, April, July and October.

## POULTRY STOCKS HIGHER

Cold storage stocks of poultry in the Nation at the end of 1979 totaled 386.2 million pounds, 38 percent more than a year earlier. Stocks of frozen chicken were up 40 percent,

Cold Storage Stocks of Red Meat and Poultry  
United States, December 31, 1979 and Comparisons

Commodity	Dec. 31 1977	Dec. 31 1978	Nov. 30 1979	Dec. 31 1979	Change from last year
1,000 pounds					Percent
FROZEN MEAT					
Beef . . . . .	315,555	405,351	321,759	353,922	- 13
Pork . . . . .	185,854	241,806	258,416	282,851	+ 17
Veal . . . . .	11,424	9,093	8,595	10,473	+ 15
Lamb and mutton . . . . .	10,096	11,716	11,071	10,800	- 8
CANNED MEATS					
IN COOLER					
Hams . . . . .	30,770	39,049	41,115	35,534	- 9
Other meats . . . . .	12,939	16,543	16,926	17,079	+ 3
Total red meat 1/ . . . . .	566,638	723,558	657,882	710,659	- 2
FROZEN POULTRY					
Chicken, all . . . . .	138,595	101,888	149,412	142,348	+ 40
Turkeys, all . . . . .	167,943	175,097	277,573	239,157	+ 37
Total poultry 2/ . . . . .	310,038	280,138	432,575	386,234	+ 38

1/Excludes cooler beef and cooler pork. 2/Includes frozen ducks.



while turkey stocks showed an increase of 37 percent.

Red meat supplies in cold storage on December 31, 1979 were down 2 percent from that date in 1978. Frozen beef stocks amounted to nearly 354 million pounds, 13 percent under a year ago. Pork stocks, at almost 283 million pounds, were up 17 percent from December 31, 1978. Lamb and mutton stocks at the end of December were 8 percent below the previous year, but stocks of veal had an increase of 15 percent.

**Cattle on Feed By Quarters**  
January 1, 1980 with Comparisons 1/

State	Jan. 1, 1978	Jan. 1, 1979	Oct. 1, 1979	Jan. 1, 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 head				Percent
Arizona . . . . .	422	490	340	420	-14
California . . . . .	845	796	765	764	- 4
Colorado . . . . .	1,020	1,080	840	960	-11
Idaho . . . . .	249	224	217	260	+16
Illinois . . . . .	650	510	340	460	-10
Indiana . . . . .	315	280	180	270	- 4
Iowa . . . . .	1,690	1,620	1,100	1,390	-14
Kansas . . . . .	1,400	1,440	1,190	1,270	-12
Michigan . . . . .	200	180	130	165	- 8
Minnesota . . . . .	400	400	265	390	- 2
Missouri . . . . .	220	180	85	120	-33
Montana . . . . .	81	80	32	63	-21
Nebraska . . . . .	1,700	1,800	1,400	1,680	- 7
New Mexico . . . . .	206	202	187	239	+18
North Dakota . . . . .	33	34	30	39	+15
Ohio . . . . .	295	225	125	180	-20
Oklahoma . . . . .	360	345	298	330	- 4
Oregon . . . . .	98	75	59	73	- 3
Pennsylvania . . . . .	98	86	50	79	- 8
South Dakota . . . . .	365	340	265	350	+ 3
Texas . . . . .	1,850	2,000	1,780	1,970	- 1
Washington . . . . .	184	188	165	155	-18
Wisconsin . . . . .	130	106	95	112	+ 6
23 States . . . . .	12,811	12,681	9,938	11,739	- 7

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fattened for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates which are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

## FEWER CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market totaled 11.7 million head in the 23 major feeding states at the beginning of 1980. This was 7 percent fewer than were on feed January 1, 1979. Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 112,000 head on feed, an increase of 6 percent from a year ago.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the 23 states

during October through December were 7 percent below that quarter in 1978. Fed cattle marketings for the last quarter of 1979 were 15 percent less than the comparable quarter a year earlier. Expected marketings for the first quarter of 1980 are indicated at 5 percent under January-March 1979.

Placements of cattle on feed in Wisconsin during October through December were up 27 percent from a year earlier. The State marketed 10 percent more fed cattle in the last quarter of 1979 than in the comparable quarter of 1978. Marketings for the first quarter of 1980 were expected to be up 15 percent.

## HOG SLAUGHTER HIGHER IN DECEMBER

The number of hogs slaughtered in Wisconsin during December was up 21 percent from a year earlier, while the Nation's hog kill increased 19 percent. Sow slaughter in the State for December was 4 percent above the previous year, and the number of sows butchered in the Nation was up 42 percent.

There were 13 percent fewer cattle slaughtered in the Nation during December than a year earlier as both the number of cows and steers and heifers were lower. Wisconsin's cattle slaughter was 4 percent above December 1978 due to a high kill of steers and heifers.

Calf slaughter in both Wisconsin and the Nation during December was below the previous year.

The 400 head of sheep and lambs butchered in Wisconsin during December were equal to a year earlier. Sheep and lamb slaughter Nationally for December was down 2 percent from December 1978.

Preliminary estimates of livestock slaughter in Wisconsin for 1979 show a decline from 1978 for all species except sheep and lambs. Livestock slaughter in the Nation for 1979 was also below the previous year except for sows and all hogs.

**Commercial Slaughter, December 1978 and 1979, Wisconsin and United States 1/**

Species and area	Number slaughtered						Total liveweight		
	December			January - December			December		
	1978	1979	Change from last year 2/	1978	1979	Change from last year 2/	1978	1979	Change from last year 2/
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds		Percent
WISCONSIN									
Cattle, all . . . . .	97	101	+ 4	1,253	1,021	- 19	112.9	120.2	+ 7
Cows 3/ . . . . .	52.3	49.8	- 5	663.3	491.2	- 26	-	-	-
Steers and heifers 3/ . .	30.7	36.9	+20	415.4	372.0	-10	-	-	-
Calves . . . . .	34	34	- 1	412	347	- 16	6.1	6.5	+ 6
Hogs, all . . . . .	161	195	+21	2,647	2,178	-18	39.2	46.4	+18
Sows 3/ . . . . .	2.8	2.9	+ 4	62.9	33.9	-46	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs . . . . .	.4	.4	n.c.	5.2	5.5	+ 6	42.4/	45.4/	+ 7
UNITED STATES									
Cattle, all . . . . .	3,047	2,651	-13	39,552	33,650	- 15	3,244	2,859	- 12
Cows 3/ . . . . .	562	494	-12	7,913	5,546	-30	-	-	-
Steers and heifers 3/ . .	2,220	1,930	-13	10,981	9,112	-17	-	-	-
Calves . . . . .	300	216	-28	4,170	2,824	-32	69	51	-26
Hogs, all . . . . .	6,434	7,637	+19	77,315	89,089	+15	1,590	1,877	+18
Sows 3/ . . . . .	346	493	+42	3,874	4,793	+24	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs . . . . .	411	403	- 2	5,369	5,017	- 7	47	47	- 1

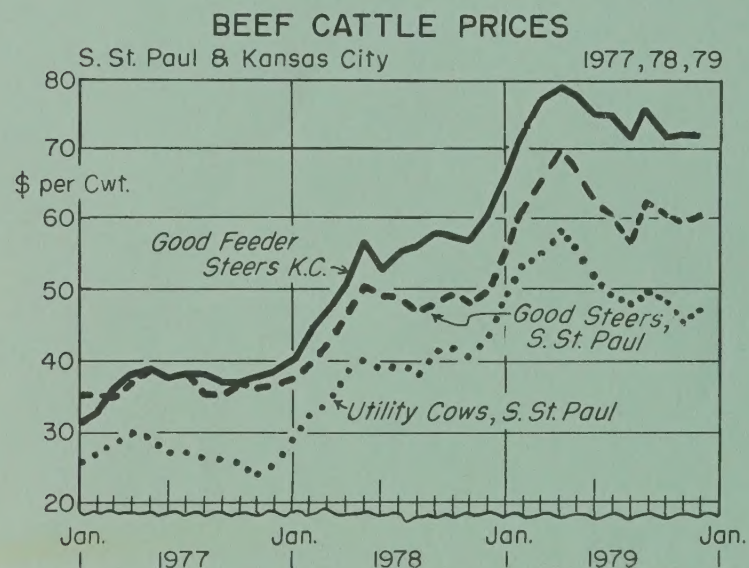
1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Percent change based on unrounded values. 3/Federally inspected only. 4/Expressed in thousands.



## FED STEER PRICE UP

Prices of good grade fed steers at the St. Paul market averaged \$60.28 a hundredweight in December. This was an increase of 46 cents from November and \$10.23 above a year earlier.

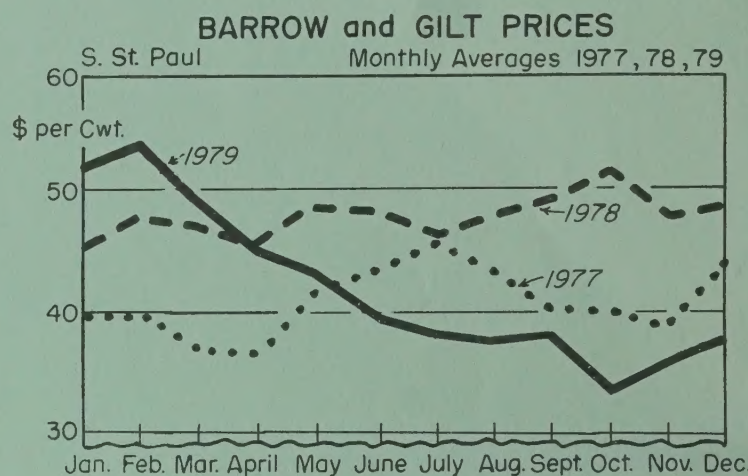
Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$47.10 a hundredweight for December, up \$1.37 from the previous month and \$3.28 higher than last year.



Good grade feeder steers weighing 600-700 pounds averaged \$72.25 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market in December, a decline of 23 cents from November but \$11.37 more than December 1978.

## HOG MARKET HIGHER

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market averaged \$37.95 a hundredweight in December, an increase of nearly \$2.00 from the previous month. However, the December average for barrows and gilts was \$11.56 below a year earlier.



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER (USPS 398-970)

January 1980

Vol. XII, No. 3

Published Monthly

by WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
801 WEST BADGER ROAD  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53713

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID  
AT MADISON, WISCONSIN